

Jefferson remained undaunted, focused, and incredibly polite. Without ever complaining, she voiced the concerns of herself and her community. A local newspaper, the State, captured her humility and humor in an interview in 1985, "It ain't no disgrace to be poor. It's just inconvenient."

After nearly three decades of fighting, the community finally received \$3.9 million in Federal and State grants, and the construction began. On July 12, 1995, the people of Little Camden, Arthurtown, and Taylors got a sewage system. They also got the opportunity to thank Mother Jefferson, in the form of a celebration at her house. As the crowd squeezed into her bathroom to share the communities' very first toilet flush, She said "I'm so grateful that I'm lost for words."

Mother Jefferson was one of the more articulate, gracious, determined people I have met. She was a truly good woman who participated in community affairs and made an enormous difference in people's lives. Her involvement and her spirit serve as a lasting lesson to us all. When writers or politicians talk about what makes America great, they are talking about people like Mother Jefferson. I send my sincere condolences to her family and friends. Like them, I will not forget her. ●

BUDGET CUTS AND EDUCATION

Mr. SIMON. On March 12 the Senate voted to restore \$2.6 billion in Federal funding for education. While this would still leave Federal support for education below 1995 levels, I was pleased to see the Senate take bipartisan action to at least partially reverse what was clearly an unwise decision. Senator HARKIN, Senator SPECTER, and the other Senators who have shown strong leadership on this issue deserve a great deal of credit for their efforts.

Recently, the Chicago Tribune published an article on the effect that Federal education cuts would have for the State of Illinois and the city of Chicago. The article gave a compelling account of what such cuts would mean for the millions of students. I strongly urge the Senate to maintain its position in conference to prevent the harmful impact that the House-proposed cuts would have on Illinois and on the Nation.

I ask that the Chicago Tribune article be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Chicago Tribune, Feb. 13, 1996]
U.S. BUDGET CUTS IMPACT CHICAGO SCHOOLS

(By Nathaniel Sheppard, Jr.)

Three years ago, at least two fights a day broke out at Ravenswood Elementary School in Chicago's rough and tumble Uptown community.

That number is down to about two per month, according to school officials, largely due to a Peer Leadership project that is part of a nationwide program known as Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities.

Despite the program's success at Ravenswood and other city schools, it is at

risk of becoming a casualty in the battle between Congress and President Clinton over the Federal budget.

It is one of several programs that could be crippled by cuts of \$54 million in Illinois' share of Federal funds under the Title I program for the Nation's neediest children.

The cuts are incorporated in a temporary spending bill, known as a continuing resolution, that is keeping the government functioning during the budget crisis.

Under the stopgap measure, Federal funding for Title I programs in the State is cut from its \$317.2 million level in the 1995 fiscal year to \$263 million in fiscal 1996.

The cuts could lead to substantial layoffs of teachers—as many as 600 in Chicago alone, according to Department of Education estimates—and could hobble programs that have become the centerpiece of national and State efforts to make schools safe, drug-free and internationally competitive by the year 2000.

The 30-year-old Title I program is the largest run by the Department of Education.

It provides remedial aid to more than 50,000 under-performing students in public and private schools, including two-thirds of all elementary schools.

The program also funds salaries for thousands of teachers and aides.

Congress passed the temporary spending bill in December to keep agencies running after parts of the government were shut down twice last year in the budget dispute.

Clinton has agreed to Republican demands to balance the budget in 7 years using economic assumptions of the Congressional Budget Office. But Democrats and Republicans still disagree over how deep some budget cuts should be.

Republicans argue that Democrats exaggerate the harm the cuts will cause and say that in several areas, their reforms will lead to increased funding for education programs.

Nationwide, cuts in the Title I program total \$1.1 billion or 17 percent over last year, under the current continuing resolution.

That reduces spending to \$7 billion for individualized instruction, smaller classes, after-school study programs, computers, projects to encourage parental involvement in schools and other strategies some educators say are critical to meeting the federally mandated year 2000 goal.

"The cuts are a serious problem that threatens the safety and well-being of 40 million children and nearly every public school teacher, principal, and support staff member in America," said Secretary of Education Richard Riley.

Nationwide, safe and drug-free school and community programs would be slashed \$107.8 million, Education Department officials say. That, they add, is enough to pay for 400,000 hand-held metal detectors, hire 3,300 security officers, keep 3,600 schools open for 3 hours of extra-curricular programs, hire 2,000 teachers for conflict-resolution courses and train 50,000 teachers and administrators in drug and violence prevention and education.

"For us, the impact will be devastating," said Patricia McPhearson, manager of the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program in Chicago. Its budget is cut 25 percent to \$4.3 million in Chicago under the stopgap funding.

Statewide, cuts in the program total \$4.7 million. Under even larger cuts proposed by House Republicans, the State would lose \$10 million from the program.

Popular projects such as those at Sauganash and Ravenswood schools, and Amundsen High School could become skeletal programs, McPhearson said.

The program at Amundsen seeks to change the climate of community violence. ●

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

● Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, 2 weeks ago I came to the floor to announce the realization of another component of our initiative to prevent violence against women—the national domestic violence hotline. At that time, I indicated that I would come to the floor every day for 2 weeks, whenever my colleagues would be kind enough to give me about 30 seconds of time, to read off the 800 number of the hotline.

The toll free number, 1-800-799-SAFE, will provide immediate crisis assistance, counseling, and local shelter referrals to women across the country, 24 hours a day. There is also a TDD number for the hearing impaired, 1-800-787-3224.

Mr. President, roughly 1 million women are victims of domestic violence each year and battering may be the single most common cause of injury to women—more common than auto accidents, muggings, or rapes by a stranger. According to the FBI, one out of every two women in America will be beaten at least once in the course of an intimate relationship. The FBI also speculates that battering is the most under-reported crime in the country. It is estimated that the new hotline will receive close to 10,000 calls a day.

I hope that the new national domestic violence hotline will help women and families find the support, assistance, and services they need to get out of homes where there is violence and abuse.

Mr. President, once again, the toll free number is 1-800-799-SAFE, and 1-800-787-3224, for the hearing impaired. ●

OPERATION SAFE HAVEN AND THE ASSETS OF EUROPEAN JEWS IN SWISS BANKS

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an issue of great emotion and importance to Holocaust survivors and their families. The issue at hand is an inquiry into the return, by Swiss banks, of assets deposited by European Jews and others in the years preceding the Holocaust.

From the 1930's until the onset of the Holocaust, European Jews and others deposited funds and other assets in Swiss banks for safekeeping. In doing so, they were trying to avoid what some inevitably saw as the writing on the wall, namely the coming Nazi onslaught. Others did so, simply for business reasons. At the end of the war however, a great many Swiss banks denied holding these assets.

Throughout the intervening years, the victorious Allies made several requests of the Swiss Government for cooperation in finding these assets. Several organizations, in addition to the Allies made repeated and determined efforts to persuade the Swiss to examine their banks and to find these missing assets.

For the Swiss though, the matter was simple, they did all that they could to